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Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NASA-04 NSC-07 RSC-01 SCI-06 SY-03 /072 R

DRAFTED BY PM/ISO:DPASSAGE:ILB
APPROVED BY PM/ISO:CAPT DEWENTER
OSD/ISA/FMRA - MR. LONG
ARPA - CAPT. JUSTICE
SCI/SAM - COL BASTEDO
EA/ANP - MR. MORRISSEY
L/PM - MR. MICHEL
L/EA - MRS. VERVILLE
---------- 066349
R 230037Z MAR 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
INFO CINCPAC

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, US, AS
SUBJECT: PROJECT HI STAR SOUTH

1. THE DEFENSE ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY (ARPA) PROPOSES ENTERING INTO AN ARRANGEMENT WITH THE AUSTRALIAN DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY FOR A JOINT PROGRAM INVOLVING THE LAUNCHING OF THREE AEROBEE SOUNDING ROCKETS IN LATE SPRING OF 1974 FROM THE WOOMERA RANGE. THE PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT IS TO MEASURE NATURAL RADIATION OF THE CELESTIAL SPHERE AT INFRARED WAVE LENGTHS.

2. IN ORDER TO PROCEED WITH THIS PROGRAM, THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS AUTHORIZED ON MARCH 19 AN EXCHANGE OF NOTES BETWEEN OUR EMBASSY IN CANBERRA AND THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT, DESIGNATING ARPA PERSONNEL AS MEMBERS OF A U.S. FORCE FOR PURPOSES OF THE STATUS OF FORCES
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AGREEMENT; SPECIFYING THE STATUS OF U.S. CONTRACTORS AND

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THEIR PERSONNEL; AND AUTHORIZING ARPA AND THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY TO WORK OUT THE DETAILS OF COST-SHARING; SECURITY ARRANGEMENT, ETC. THE PROPOSED DRAFT EXCHANGE OF NOTES GIVES THE APPROVAL OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS TO THE PROJECT IMMEDIATELY AT HAND (I.E., HI STAR SOUTH). IT FURTHER ESTABLISHES A FRAMEWORK CONSISTENT WITH EXISTING U.S.-AUSTRALIAN AGREEMENTS FOR DETERMINING THE STATUS OF U.S. PERSONNEL AND CONTRACTORS INVOLVED IN ANY FUTURE ARPA PROJECT APPROVED BY BOTH GOVERNMENTS, AND AUTHORIZES THE

SERVICE-TO-SERVICE AGREEMENTS THAT MAY BE NECESSARY.

3. YOU SHOULD APPROACH THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE TO BEGIN THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATING A FINAL TEXT OF AN EXCHANGE OF NOTES FOR PROJECT HI STAR SOUTH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DRAFT THAT FOLLOWS:

"THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND HAS THE HONOR TO REFER TO RECENT DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS CONCERNING COOPERATIVE SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMS PROPOSED BY THE UNITED STATES DEFENSE ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY (ARPA) AND THE AUSTRALIAN DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY. THESE AGENCIES ARE PRESENTLY CONSIDERING A PROJECT DESIGNATED HI STAR SOUTH, WHICH INVOLVES THE LAUNCHING AT THE WOOMERA RANGE OF UP TO THREE AEROBEE SOUNDING ROCKETS SUPPLIED BY ARPA TO MEASURE NATURAL RADIATION OF THE CELESTIAL SPHERE AT INFRARED WAVE LENGTHS. OTHER RESEARCH PROJECTS HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT BY ARPA IN THE PAST IN COOPERATION WITH AUSTRALIAN AGENCIES AND ADDITIONAL COOPERATIVE PROJECTS MAY BE PROPOSED IN THE FUTURE FROM TIME TO TIME.

IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH THE STATUS OF UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL AS WELL AS CONTRACTORS, SUBCONTRACTORS AND EMPLOYEES THEREOF WHOSE TEMPORARY PRESENCE MAY BE REQUIRED IN AUSTRALIA FOR THE PURPOSES OF ARPA PROJECTS APPROVED BY THE TWO GOVERNMENTS, THE EMBASSY HAS THE HONOR TO PROPOSE THE FOLLOWING:

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(1) THE AGREEMENT SIGNED AT CANBERRA ON MAY 9, 1963, BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND AUSTRALIA CONCERNING THE STATUS OF UNITED STATES FORCES IN AUSTRALIA SHALL APPLY TO SUCH APPROVED PROJECTS;

(2) THOSE CONTRACTORS AND SUBCONTRACTORS OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND THEIR EMPLOYEES AS MAY BE REQUIRED IN AUSTRALIA FOR THE PURPOSES OF SUCH APPROVED PROJECTS

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SHALL BE ACCORDED THE SAME TREATMENT AS IS PROVIDED IN ARTICLES VIII AND X OF THE AGREEMENT SIGNED AT CANBERRA ON NOVEMBER 10, 1969, BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND AUSTRALIA CONCERNING A JOINT DEFENSE SPACE COMMUNICATION STATION.

(3) ARPA AND THE COOPERATING AUSTRALIAN AGENCY ARE AUTHORIZED TO ENTER INTO ARRANGEMENTS COVERING THE SPECIFIC DETAILS OF SUCH PROJECTS AS MAY BE APPROVED BY BOTH GOVERNMENTS.

THE EMBASSY HAS THE HONOR TO INFORM THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS APPROVED THE PROPOSED HI STAR SOUTH PROJECT DESCRIBED ABOVE, AND TO REQUEST THE APPROVAL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA FOR THIS PROJECT.

IF THE FOREGOING IS ACCEPTABLE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, THE EMBASSY HAS THE HONOR FURTHER TO PROPOSE THAT THE DEPARTMENT'S REPLY TO THAT EFFECT, TOGETHER WITH THIS NOTE, SHALL CONSTITUTE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS EFFECTIVE ON THE DATE OF THE DEPARTMENT'S REPLY."

4. WE RECOGNIZE THAT WE HAVE BEEN THE SOURCE OF DELAY IN GETTING THIS DRAFT TO YOU, BUT WOULD HOPE IN VIEW OF ARPA'S DESIRE TO CONDUCT THE LAUNCHINGS IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE THAT YOU WOULD BE ABLE TO QUICKLY REACH AGREEMENT WITH THE GOA. YOU WILL NOTE THAT THERE HAS BEEN A SUBSTANTIVE ADDITION IN THE END OF THE FIRST PARAGRAPH IN THE DRAFT EXCHANGE OF NOTES. THE REFERENCE TO "ADDITIONAL COOPERATIVE PROJECTS (WHICH MAY BE PROPOSED IN THE FUTURE FROM TIME TO TIME) IS INTENDED TO PERMIT SIMILAR
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FOLLOW-ON PROJECTS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE PROPOSED DRAFT EXCHANGE OF NOTES" IE., WITHOUT REQUIRING FURTHER SUCH EXCHANGES).
5. YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO CONDUCT THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE GOA BASED ON THE DRAFT EXCHANGE ABOVE; AND TO MAKE CHANGES RESULTING FROM NEGOTIATIONS AND CONSISTENT WITH THE GENERAL TENOR OF OUR OBLIGATIONS AND RIGHTS, WITH THE CONCURRENCE OF THE DEPARTMENT. SUBJECT TO THIS REVIEW, YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO SIGN THE RESULTING AGREEMENT.
KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, RESEARCH, AGREEMENT DRAFT, PROJECT HI-STAR SOUTH, ROCKETS, RADIATION MEASURING DEVICES, MILITARY BASES, DIPLOMATIC NOTES, S PACE AGREEMENTS, SPACE COMMUNICATION, STATUS OF FORCES AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE058781
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DPASSAGE:ILB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740062-1079
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740320/aaaaarvc.tel
Line Count: 164
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN PM
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 JUL 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <29 JUL 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

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30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROJECT HI STAR SOUTH
TAGS: MARR, US, AS, ARPA
To: CANBERRA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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